

Appl. No. 09/657,956
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IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please amend the paragraph on page 5, lines 5 - 12, as follows:

a¹ Furthermore, in the preferred embodiment an interface 311 is provided to a governmental Immigration Authority 310. In a sub-step 222 (Fig. 1C), the accreditation system 300 sends visa requests to an Immigration Authority on behalf of participants from abroad once their participation has been confirmed. In the case of an Olympic event, participation is confirmed through the Olympic Entries Qualification System. The immigration department 310 replies to the accreditation system 300 through interface 311 with a visa Authority. This provides participants ~~travelling~~ traveling from abroad with an authority to travel to the country where the event is held.

2. Please amend the paragraph on page 7, line 31 - page 8, line 2, as follows:

a² Preferably copies of the accreditation database are kept on more than one of the servers 410 and 420 of the wide area network, thereby ensuring continuous ~~continues~~ operation even in the event that a part of the wide area network gets isolated from the rest.